October November
December 2017 Vol. 40, #4

* End Military Intervention
* Transfer Military Spending to Human Needs

WE ARE PEACEACTIONWI.ORG

* Oppose Racism & Sexism
* Protect the Environment
* Abolish Nuclear Weapons & Power

# The Mobilizer

## International Coalition Against Nuclear Weapons Wins Nobel Peace Prize October 6, 2017

ican
international campaign
to abolish nuclear weapons

ICAN is a coalition of non-governmental organizations dedicated to peace in 100 countries. Peace Action WI is a member. Together we work together to bring an end to the threat of our existence from nuclear bombs. Most groups include decommissioning nuclear power plants because they can produce plutonium for nuclear bomb cores, and can be targets. The Nobel prize was awarded in recognition of their role in helping to achieve the UN treaty on the capital Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It is the result of millions of campaigners world-wide who seek to banish nuclear weapons from the earth. ICAN wants to pay tribute to the atomic bomb survivors (the Hibakusha) and other victims of nuclear test explosions around the world, who have led the movement with their painful testimonies and advocacy. The belief that nuclear weapons are legitimate and a source of security is misguided and dangerous. This undermines efforts of disarmament. Nuclear non-proliferation does not mean that nuclear armed states can maintain downsized arsenals (with more potent war heads), it demands complete dismantlement and international control over all nuclear weapons materials. We are at a crisis stage of human existence from the effects of climate change and increasing nuclear armaments and population increase challenges. The moment is now to support the nuclear weapons ban treaty.

By: Pam Richards

## Nuclear Weapons Abolition News

The Us Conference of Mayors has voted unanimously to adopt a resolution "Calling on the President to Lower Nuclear Tensions, Prioritize Diplomacy and Redirect Nuclear Tensions, Prioritize Diplomacy and Redirect Nuclear Weapons Spending to Meet Human Needs and Address Environmental Challenges." The resolution was put forward by US Mayors for Peace.

The resolution calls on the US and other nuclear weapons states to reduce their stockpiles. It calls on the US to ratify the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, to make nuclear weapons illegal under international law. It supports the Restricting the First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017, to prohibit the president from launching a nuclear first strike without an act of congress. It calls on the president and congress to reverse present spending priorities and not authorize nuclear weapons, or military expenditures. It asks that funds be restored to American tax paying communities.

In September, the Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Energy Conversion Act of 2017 was introduced by Eleanor Homes Norton. It calls on congress to mandate and fund the dismantlement of all nuclear weapons by 2024. Dismantling and monitoring of uranium, plutonium, and nuclear weapons material will be supervised by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Nuclear weapons labs will be converted to research civilian science for peacetime. Nuclear power plant and fossil fuels power plants will be converted to sustainable carbon free, nuclear free energy sources. Funding would be used for health care, housing, education agriculture and other human needs.

### A New Nuclear Arms Race

The United States is leading the other nuclear arms nation in vastly increased spending on nuclear weapons. Trillions of dollars will be spent on modernizing nuclear weapons arsenals, extending the threat of annihilation up to the next century. This is contrary to the will of the majority of nations and people of the world. The United Nations has negotiated a Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It is supported by the majority of nations in the UN General Assembly, when 50 nations sign and ratify it will make nuclear weapons illegal under International Law.

Expensive upgrades are portrayed to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear weapons. Increasing stealth performance and targeting capabilities will create provocative new weapons, destabilizing the world and threatening global safety and security. Instead, these advanced weapons suggest preparation for a possible first strike. They may also lead to a resumption of explosive nuclear bomb tests.

**Join Peace Action WI** ☐ **Renew Membership** ☐

**To Keep the peace and social justice movement going strong**

Name:_____ Address: _____

City: _____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Phone:_____ Email_____

Membership rates are: $36 for individuals $12 for limited income $60 for households

**$120 for supporter memberships** $1000 for lifetime

Please make checks out to Peace Education Project of Peace Action WI. 1001 E Keefe Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53212 Tear off this page (if your name and address is on the other side) and mail your check. Your contributions are tax deductible.

# In Memory of Jim Martell

On July 2nd, Peace Action WI lost Jim Martell, One of its most devoted members. Since the Bush/Cheney era, Jim was a regular at the weekly Stand-for-Peace held each Saturday at different intersections in Milwaukee county. Jim brought the signs, and flags in his van that Peace Action members hold aloft to let the public know the peace movement exists even though it is often ignored by the news media. For years, Jim was the Stand-for-Peace most regular participant. Once, Stand-for Peace founder Julie Enslow called me to say the Stand that Saturday was cancelled because the temperature was below zero. She told me to go to the intersection to tell anyone who showed up. The only person who did was Jim Martell. Jim was a MPS Social Studies teacher, outdoors man. Jim struggled with limited mobility and decline of health and Jim still would come out and sit in a chair.

As his health declined further, he stopped coming to the stand, but would come for the coffee afterwards. He said fellowship with his fellow peaceniks was the highlight of his week.

We Stand-for-Peace regulars will continue to honor Jim by participating in the Stand as long as it is needed.

### In Memory of Charlotte Bleistein

Charlotte died at age 102 years of age on September 17, 2017. She was a long time Peace Action member and active in UNA, WILPF and many other peace and justice groups. She was one of the first women attorneys in Wisconsin. The Memorial is Sunday October 29, at 2:00pm at Greendale Community Church 6015 Clover Lane.

By: Steve Shea

**Two Organizations, one Building, Both Working for Peace**

**Peace Action WI**
**(501 C(4)**

**Mission Statement:**

Peace Action WI is a peace and justice organization, which works for a world where human needs are met, the environment is preserved, and the threats of war and nuclear weapons have been abolished. We are committed to non-violence as a way of life and offer our donors and the public at large opportunities for education on a variety of related topics.

**Programs:**

**Stand for Peace**
**Newsletter Mailings**
**Lantern's for Peace**
**Holiday Sale**
**Annual Meeting**
**End of the Wars Committee**

**Peace Education Project of Peace Action WI 501 C(3)**

**Mission Statement:**

Peace Education Project advocates for peace and engages in community services through mobilization, outreach, awareness and provides resources for social and culture development in Milwaukee County and abroad.

**Programs:**

**PECO (Peace Education Community Outreach)**
**Redress**
**Atonement**
**Bride that Connects Community Outreach**
**Quality Trade Pathways**

Here at the office, we have been busy reorganizing ourselves. We have changed the focus of PEP, the 501 C(3) to work on local peace and justice issues. However, we have left intact the focus of Peace Action, the C-4. This allows room for each group of people to continue to work together for peace in the same building, but have clearly defined visions and mission statements, goals and objectives for each organization. As it stands now, Peace Action has two board members (needs more) owns the building and its debts. It is for now supporting our executive director, who works for both groups. Peace Education Project has a full board that is developing and running new programs, and actively seeking significant funding streams.

Since our beginning 40 years ago (this year), we have remade ourselves, changed our name, changed our focus, and had dozens of different campaigns and programs. This was done to allow us to work in the ever-changing world of peace and justice. Stay tuned for more details in the next newsletter.
Brian Bunzel

**End the Wars Committee**

Peace Action End the Wars Committee has been revitalized. We say end the wars because the US is currently bombing seven countries and intervening militarily in many more.

Jim Carpenter reported on the "Ban the Bomb" treaty at the United Nations. Its passage will hopefully pressure the nuclear –armed nations to move towards nuclear disarmament. As a signer to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the US has agreed to, but has not followed through on dismantling its nuclear weapons. None of the other nuclear armed nations have dismantled their nuclear weapons even though all have agreed to do so.

John Payton and Roger Hanson from the Friends Committee on National Legislation have been coordinating meetings with our congressional representatives to ask for ending support for military spending.

The End the Wars Committee is completely opposed to any military activity initiated by the US, to try to stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons. Negotiations and diplomacy are the only accepted methods to achieve and end to North Korea's Nuclear Missile Program. We voted to join national peace groups to oppose the Thaad missile installation in South Korea. The US should bring an offer to end provocative military exercises and end to threats of regime change to the negotiation table. There must also be a formal end to the Korean war. The US will need to learn to co-exist with a nuclear armed North Korea.

**Calendar of Events**

**Oct 23** Picket to close the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility. 11:30 am meet in front of the Milwaukee County Courthouse. Contact EXPO for more information.

**Oct 24** United Nations Day at Milwaukee City Hall Rotunda, 9:00 am, Mayor Barret will speak

**Oct 30** Milwaukee county board meeting on the budget at 6:30 pm, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N Water St., bring signs and speak out against military spending.

**Nov 6** Frank P. Zeidler Memorial Lecture Monday at 7:00 pm in the Turner Hall Ballroom, 1038 N 4TH ST Heather Ann Thompson will speak on "Blood in the Water the Attica Prison Uprising and Its Legacy."

**Nov 11** Veterans for Peace Armistice Day, Milwaukee City Hall at 7:00 pm, John Nichols will speak, co-sponsored by the End the Wars Committee.

**Nov 28** Peace Action's 40's anniversary celebration and annual meeting, 5:30 pm at the Milwaukee Friends Meeting House at 3224 N Gordon's Place.

**Dec 1-2** International Gift Shop, at the Milwaukee Friends Meeting House, 3224 N Gordon Place. Peace Action will be selling items to raise funds. Friday December 1st 4pm-8pm, Saturday December 2, 9:00 am-4:00 pm.

WI Coalition to Normalize Relations with Cuba. Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, Central Methodist Church, 639 North 25TH ST Milwaukee, WI

End the Wars meets every 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm at Peace Action Office. Members are invited.

**What's Happening in our Community**

Youth in the community are not safe. With the continuous spike of crime and violence plaguing the communities and threating the lives of our youth, Peace Education Project of Peace Action WI, will be involved in providing a variety of services to help combat violence in the city of Milwaukee.

Christopher Beamon was shot and killed on the eve of his 18th birthday, in which a fight took place costing him his life. Senseless crimes such as these are becoming the new norm. As we see gun violence become the new way of settling disputes.

Justin Evans Jr., six years-old, was shot and killed in his grandmother's backyard as he prepared to go fishing with his stepfather. Justin is Milwaukee's youngest victim this year killed by yet again senseless gun violence.

Peace Education Project has taken position to stand with our youth and has developed several programs to deal with the issues of violence in our community and help usher change in the community.

The Bridge That Connects Community Outreach Program is a program that serves as a bridge that community members may use on the pathway to healing to help members of our community deal with untreated trauma. This program introduces holistic approaches to deal with untreated trauma. Some of the programs will be yoga, nutritional eating, meditation, chanting, group counseling, support groups, mentor opportunities, assistance with financial aid, introduction into apprenticeship opportunities, individualized assessment planning,casplanning and community resource assistance.

We urge community leaders and supporters to help us make Milwaukee safe and take a stand against the war on the lives of youth in this community. In order to achieve world peace, we must deal with issues that threaten local peace. We ask for suppor with donations, and volunteerism to help us expand the work we are able to give in the community. Our children matter!

## STAND FOR PEACE

October 28 Brady & Farwell
November 4 Capitol & Teutonia
November 11 Sherman & North
November 18 KK & Russell
November 25 Port Washington & Silver Spring
December 2 Locust & Oakland
December 16 Port Washington & Silver Spring
December 23 St Paul & Water
December 30 Capitol & Oakland

Huge amounts are being siphoned off from domestic spending by influential weapons contractors to replace the entire "Nuclear Triad." Nuclear weapons policy calls on congress to authorize spending on new nuclear-armed planes, submarines and land based missiles.

The US Navy is planning to build twelve new SSBN's Ballistic Missile Submarines. Each submarine will carry a dozen of nuclear warheads, powerful enough to destroy vast areas. Each submarine costs $5.1 billion and Raytheon is already developing a prototype, for hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Air force is updating many of its planes to deliver more lethal bombs, upgrading many of its bombers. A new stealth bomber, to carry the Long Range Stand-Off Missile has been authorized by congress. It can deliver a nuclear cruise missile from thousands of miles away, possible to be used in a first strike. Lockheed Martin and Raytheon Corporations have each been awarded $900 million in contracts to begin development of a delivery jet. The air force also plans to spend billions on thousands of LRSO missiles.

On the ground, in North Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, the Heartland of America 100 billion dollars will be spent to build 642 new Nuclear Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles or ICBM's. New research, development, testing, and support facilities are already being constructed, each costing additional billions of dollars.

The entire nuclear weapons program has been privatized reaping, huge profits for defense contractors. Spending increases because of intense lobbying, vast sums are being poured into to buy influence in congress. There is a lack of accountability, resulting in mismanagement, safety violations, radio contamination, and incredible costs-over-runs. The entire nuclear weapons complex needs to be abandoned and dismantled immediately.

**Peace Education Project of Peace Action WI**

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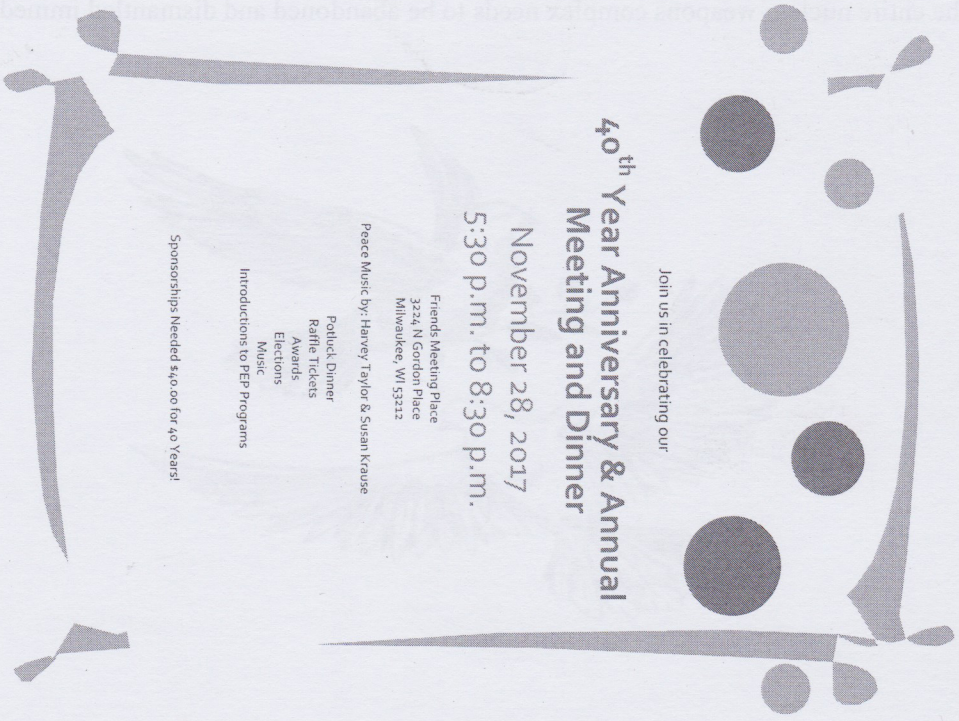
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